



Florida Alpaca & Llama Association Inc.

www.falainc.com

EARLY SPRING 2019

Letter from the President

Welcome to 2019!

The year has opened with a great start. The Board of Directors has had a conference call and is looking forward to many events in 2019. First off was a very successful Florida State Fair Youth and Open Llama Show. Our sponsorship helped with the Herdsman Award and The Champion of Champions that the Youth benefits from. Thank you to those farms who have leased their animal to Youth to help make this program happen. Also, thank you to those members who have shown in the Open Show—without you we would not have a show.

Upcoming event for FALA is the Levy County Fair at the beginning of April in Williston.

We are discussing a Health and Handling Seminar in July; please let us know if it is something you would be interested in.

If you are looking for events outside Florida, Southern States Llama Association will have an Annual Meeting and Conference in Athens, GA March 15, 2019. See their website for additional information. There is also a Spring Pack Trial in Cedar Mountain, North Carolina, DuPont State Park, April 27-28, 2019.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy year!

Mary Rose Collins

Inside this issue:

FSF Youth Llama Show	2
FSF Youth Llama Show Photos	3
Shearing Alert!	6
Camelid Classifieds	7
Calendar of Events	8

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Florida State Fair Youth Llama Show

This is what we have going on with our Florida Youth Llama/alpaca exhibitors!

Most people think of a 'show' as --showmanship, halter, performance and ribbons, 1-2-3 and we are done!

Not so at the Florida State Fair; the program is called the "Champion Animals & Champion Youth Program" for educating not only youth(ages 8 -18), but the public about live-stock species.

We all begin in September by attending a day-long workshop at the Florida State Fairgrounds in Tampa to learn about the "Champion Program." Youth, parents, leaders, and anyone interested are invited to attend to orient to the program and its purposes; "Supporting Today's Youth to be Tomorrow's Leaders."



Our youth (llama/ alpaca) were invited to attend a fleece/fiber workshop in August, prior to the September all species workshop, to learn various techniques to use the fleece of their animals in a finished product. We worked at a local high school in Pasco County and had 18 participants with 7 fleece specialist in the areas of felting, weaving, knitting, crochet and dying fiber. These talented women instructed students 'how to' use their animal fleece to create a finished product, with hands-on guidance.

During October, prospective llama/alpaca exhibitors were searching and securing animals from camelid breeders with leasing or purchasing information to have their animals in their possession by the November deadline.

November was the month of acquainting and learning more about the animal beginning of, or continuing training, asking questions, gaining information and beginning the journey towards the Champion Program for the FSF in February.

The beginning of December all youth planning to show in the FSF Youth llama/alpaca program were to have their registrations and entry sent in to the Livestock office at the Florida State Fair. Of course, the youth continue training with their animal through to February and the show.

The first Saturday in January, the youth are invited to attend a workshop at the fairgrounds, bringing their llamas or alpacas, and practice showmanship techniques and performance courses. As many youth are new to the program, it acclimates the youth and the animal to the fairgrounds' and facilities, the youth meet other participants in the program and animal/exhibitor gain unique show experience in preparation for the show.

Our pictures begin upon arrival at the Florida State Fairgrounds in Tampa on Thursday, February 14, as the youth and animals begin the check-in procedures. Our Llama/Alpaca Youth Committee, consisting of Tom, Mary, Cheryl, Mary Rose, Kathy, Sue, and Tracy, begin check-in and getting youth oriented to the weekend's finale of activities.

The ending pictures are of the top 6 exhibitors that finished with the most 'points' in the Champion

Program. They receive a monetary award, as well as the trophy and recognition.

We do, also, have our normal animal class winners: Grand/Reserve, Performance classes Grand/Reserve, Herdsman, Finished Product and Walking Fleece champions.....yet, in the thoughts of the Llama/Alpaca Youth Committee, we are impressed with each youth in the program as they all have successes during their experience with the camelid industry.

If you would like to support the Llama/Alpaca Youth Show, please contact the Agribusiness Department at the Florida State Fair, (813) 621-7821 and let them know you would like to reinforce the Llama/Alpaca Program!

Sincerely,
Tracy Weaver
FSF Youth Llama/Alpaca
Superintendent 2019

FSF Youth Llama Show



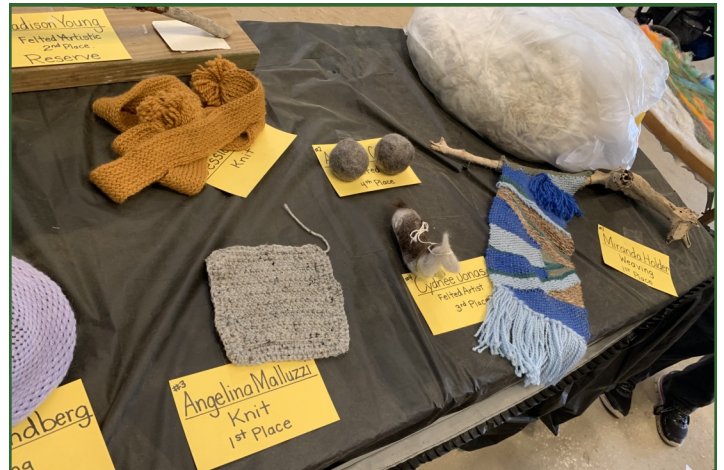
Fiber Demo: Susan, Claire-Marie, Charlene, Mary



Youth Grand Champion Fiber — Miranda Holdet



Finished Products Display — Adult



Finished Products Display — Youth

FSF Youth Llama Show



Alpaca/Llama Halter Class



Grand Champion Female Class—
Miranda Holder & Emma Radley



Grand Champion Non-Breeder Class—
Savannah Morgan & Maggie Jordan



Grand Champion Male Class—
Ryan Swartz & Anthony Hernandez

FSF Youth Llama Show



Mary Rose, Cheryl & Youth Exhibitors



Judge Rob Knuckles & Performance crew



Performance Petter—Edyie Robshaw



2019 Champions Onstage

Shearing Alert!

Steve German spoke to Elmer Miler who told him he would be unable to shear this year. Garrett of Rustic Shearing is having back issues and says he will also be unable to shear.

Here is the list of other shearers from our website. If you shear your own and are interested in shearing for others, let us know and we will get the word out.

Don Holliston
Summer--GA: 706-896-5005
Winter--FL: 386-330-0345

Chad Bryan, Spit Happens
386-405-8038

Ben Hearne
828-318-7556

Jonathan Hearne
828-215-4473

CAMELID CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE — Guard Llama . . Female, appaloosa DOB: 5/28/13 Registered. Very curious and alert toward dogs. Able to halter, lead, shear and do nails. Would prefer her to be with alpacas. \$500.00
Please contact Claudia Hammack llamachick@yahoo.com

WANTED — Yearling to adult male gelding that is halter and lead trained. Want to be able to take him on walks. Good disposition a must.
Contact: Maxie Mertes fraulein1948@gmail.com

WANTED — Guard llama in Lake Co. for three goats on ten acres.
Contact: Tara Richardson 321-239-6116



2019 Calendar of Events

March 2-3 — Hillbilly Llama Show — Perry, GA

March 15-17 — SSLA Annual Educational Conference — Athens, GA

March 21 — Deadline for entries for Levy County Fair Llama Show

March 24 — FALA Meeting — Brooksville, FL

April 6 — Levy County Fair Llama Show — Williston, FL

Please, save the date! Directions and information on FALA website and at <http://www.levycountyfair.com>

Finished product show...so plan to send in your entries....youth, too!!

April 13 — Mellow Yellow Llama Show — Cumming, GA

Pending April 19-21 — Llama demonstration opportunity

Possible vendor booth and llama/alpaca petting area and those interested in demonstrations with spinning and weaving. It will be in Pasco county at the Concourse off hwy 52....but more information is forthcoming.

April 27-28 — SSLA Spring Pack Trial — Cedar Mountain, NC, DuPont State Park

FALA MEETING

Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019

Time: 2:00pm

Location: Guardian Angel Alpacas
26093 Olympia Rd., Brooksville, FL
Brooksville, FL 34601